



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Research and
Special Programs
Administration**

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

MAY 29 1998

Mr. Bob Scala
Finetex Inc.
P.O. Box 216
Elmwood Park, NJ 07407

Ref No. 98-0040

Dear Mr. Scala:

This is in response to your letter dated April 28, 1998, regarding § 173.150(e)(1) of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180). Specifically, you ask for confirmation that a product containing 9 percent Isopropyl Alcohol, 14 percent water, and cosmetic and/or pharmaceutical surfactants meets the criteria of the § 173.150(e)(1) exception. The product contains no other hazardous materials.

Your understanding is correct. An aqueous solution containing 24 percent or less alcohol by volume and no other hazardous materials may be reclassified as a combustible liquid as provided by § 173.150(e)(1). Combustible liquids transported in non-bulk packagings (e.g., 55-gallon drums) are not subject to the HMR in accordance with § 173.150(f)(2) unless they are a hazardous substance, hazardous waste, or marine pollutant. Provisions for transportation of combustible liquids in bulk packagings are provided in § 173.150(f)(3).

I hope this satisfies your request.

Sincerely,

Delmer F. Billings
Chief, Standards Development
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards

Finetex®

B.24
173.150

April 28, 1998

Mr. Ed Mazzullo
Director Hazardous Material Standards
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Mazzullo:

We have obtained helpful information concerning the resolution of classification questions from your Dianne LaValle.

We have a material (trade name Gemtex SC75) which contains 9% Isopropyl Alcohol, 14% water, and cosmetic and/or pharmaceutical surfactants. It has a flash point of 79.0F. There are no other hazardous materials in this product. Diane's advice is to classify this material as combustible under 49CFR173.150(e)(1). Since this product is shipped in 55 gallon drums, this would be considered a non-regulated material. If we were to ship in bulk containers, it would be considered a combustible liquid, n.o.s.

We would appreciate you sending us written confirmation of this information for our files.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Bob Scala/jw

Bob Scala
Vice President

BS/jw

cc: J. Roger Porter
President